

1 **CLAIMS**

2 We claim:

3 1. A method of transmitting information, comprising the steps of:

4 (1) generating a chaotic carrier signal that causes a voltage to oscillate
5 chaotically about a first equilibrium point in a current-voltage phase space of a circuit
6 that exhibits a current-voltage characteristic curve on which the first equilibrium
7 point falls; and

8 (2) changing, in response to an information signal, a non-reactive resistive
9 value in the circuit and thereby causing the first equilibrium point to shift to a shifted
10 first equilibrium point in the current-voltage phase space.

11 2. The method of claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of generating
12 a chaotic carrier signal that oscillates about two equilibrium points in the current-
13 voltage phase space, and wherein step (2) comprises the step of causing both
14 equilibrium points to shift in the current-voltage phase space.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the circuit exhibits a piecewise-linear
16 current-voltage characteristic comprising three linear segments, two of the linear
17 segments having a first slope in the phase space and the third linear segment having
18 a second slope in the phase space; and wherein step (2) comprises the step of
19 changing either the first slope or the second slope but not both slopes in response to
20 the information signal.

21 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the circuit exhibits a piecewise-linear
22 current-voltage characteristic comprising three linear segments, two of the linear
23 segments having a first slope in the phase space and the third linear segment having
24 a second slope in the phase space; and wherein step (2) comprises the step of
25 changing both the first slope and the second slope in response to the information
26 signal.

27 5. The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of switching
28 a non-reactive resistive element in the circuit which changes a slope of the current-
29 voltage characteristic curve for the circuit element.

30 6. The method of claim 5, wherein step (2) comprises the step of switching

- 1 a resistive element in a Kennedy diode circuit.
- 2 7. The method of claim 5, wherein step (2) comprises the step of switching
3 a resistive element in a Caltech diode circuit.
- 4 8. The method of claim 5, wherein step (2) comprises the step of switching
5 a resistive element in an SAIC diode circuit.
- 6 9. The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of shorting at
7 least two diodes arranged in opposite polarity.
- 8 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
9 (3) transmitting a signal resulting from the changed non-reactive resistive
10 value through a communication channel;
- 11 (4) receiving the signal transmitted in step (3) in a receiver tuned to
12 synchronize with the chaotic carrier signal generated in step (1); and
- 13 (5) providing a demodulated output containing the information signal by
14 detecting periods of synchronization and non-synchronization with the received
15 signal.
- 16 11. The method of claim 10, wherein:
17 step (3) comprises the step of transmitting a single-scroll attractor chaotic
18 signal;
19 step (4) comprises the step of receiving the single-scroll attractor chaotic
20 signal transmitted in step (3); and
21 step (5) comprises the step of detecting periods of synchronization and non-
22 synchronization with the single-scroll attractor chaotic signal.
- 23 12. The method of claim 10, wherein:
24 step (3) comprises the step of transmitting a double-scroll attractor chaotic
25 signal;
26 step (4) comprises the step of receiving the double-scroll attractor chaotic
27 signal transmitted in step (3); and
28 step (5) comprises the step of detecting periods of synchronization and non-
29 synchronization with the double-scroll attractor chaotic signal.
- 30 13. The method of claim 10, wherein:

1 step (3) comprises the step of transmitting a triple-scroll attractor chaotic
2 signal;

3 step (4) comprises the step of receiving the triple scroll attractor chaotic
4 transmitted in step (3); and

5 step (5) comprises the step of detecting periods of synchronization and non-
6 synchronization with the triple-scroll attractor chaotic signal.

7 14. The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of changing
8 a breakpoint voltage of a piecewise linear response curve of the circuit.

9 15. A chaotic transmitting circuit, comprising:

10 an oscillator circuit;

11 a resistor coupled to the oscillator circuit;

12 a chaotic circuit, coupled to the oscillator circuit through the resistor, wherein
13 the chaotic circuit exhibits a current-voltage characteristic shape having a slope that
14 intersects a load line defined by the resistor and provides an equilibrium point about
15 which a voltage oscillates chaotically; and

16 means for changing the slope exhibited by the chaotic circuit in accordance
17 with an information signal.

18 16. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 15, wherein the
19 oscillator circuit comprises an inductance and a first capacitance;

20 wherein the chaotic circuit comprises a second capacitance; and

21 wherein the values of the first capacitance, the second capacitance, the
22 inductance, and the resistance are selected so as to cause the chaotic transmitting
23 circuit to oscillate in a single-scroll attractor mode.

24 17. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 15,

25 wherein the oscillator circuit comprises an inductance and a first
26 capacitance;

27 wherein the chaotic circuit comprises a second capacitance; and

28 wherein the values of the first capacitance, the second capacitance, the
29 inductance, and the resistance are selected so as to cause the chaotic transmitting
30 circuit to oscillate in a double-scroll attractor mode.

1 18. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 15, wherein the means
2 for changing comprises means for switching a plurality of resistive values.

3 19. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 18, wherein the means
4 for switching shifts a voltage breakpoint on the current-voltage characteristic shape
5 exhibited by the chaotic circuit.

6 20. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 18, wherein the means
7 for switching shifts a slope of a piecewise linear current-voltage characteristic shape
8 exhibited by the chaotic circuit.

9 21. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 18, wherein the means
10 for switching shifts two slopes of the current-voltage characteristic shape exhibited
11 by the chaotic circuit.

12 22. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 15, wherein the
13 chaotic circuit comprises circuit elements having values selected so as to cause the
14 chaotic transmitting circuit to oscillate about a single-scroll attractor.

15 23. The chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 22, wherein the means
16 for switching shifts an equilibrium point of the single-scroll attractor among at least
17 three different positions on the current-voltage characteristic shape, each position
18 corresponding to a different information symbol contained in the information signal.

19 24. A system comprising a chaotic transmitting circuit according to claim 15
20 and further comprising a chaotic receiving circuit comprising circuit components
21 matched to synchronize with the chaotic transmitting circuit.

22 25. A chaotic transmitting circuit, comprising:
23 an oscillator circuit;
24 a resistor coupled to the oscillator circuit;
25 a chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit through the resistor, wherein
26 the chaotic circuit exhibits a current-voltage characteristic shape having a slope that
27 intersects a load line defined by the resistor and provides an equilibrium point about
28 which a voltage oscillates chaotically; and

29 30 a switch coupled to the chaotic circuit, wherein the switch changes a
nonreactive resistive value in the chaotic circuit in accordance with an information

1 signal and thereby causes the first equilibrium point to shift to a shifted first
2 equilibrium point.

3 26. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
4 comprises a diode circuit that exhibits a negative piecewise linear resistance.

5 27. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
6 comprises:

7 a first op amp coupled across the oscillator circuit through the resistor,
8 wherein the first op amp is further coupled to a first group of three resistors, a first
9 of which is coupled between an output of the first op amp and a positive input
10 terminal thereof; a second of which is coupled between the output of the first op amp
11 and a negative input terminal thereof; and a third of which is coupled between the
12 negative input terminal and a ground; and

13 a second op amp coupled across the oscillator circuit through the resistor,
14 wherein the second op amp is further coupled to a second group of three resistors, a
15 first of which is coupled between an output of the second op amp and a positive input
16 terminal thereof; a second of which is coupled between the output of the second op
17 amp and a negative input terminal thereof; and a third of which is coupled between
18 the negative input terminal and the ground.

19 28. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 27, wherein the switch changes
20 a non-reactive resistive value between the negative input terminal of the second op
21 amp and the ground.

22 29. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
23 element comprises:

24 a first diode arranged in a forward polarity across the oscillator circuit
25 through a first resistor and coupled to a first voltage supply through a second resistor;

26 a second diode arranged in a reversed polarity across the oscillator circuit
27 through a third resistor and coupled to a second voltage supply through a fourth
28 resistor; and

29 an op amp coupled to a first group of three resistors, a first of which is
30 coupled between an output of the op amp and a positive input terminal thereof; a

1 second of which is coupled between the output of the op amp and a negative input
2 terminal thereof; and a third of which is coupled between the negative input terminal
3 and ground.

4 30. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 29,

5 wherein the switch modifies a resistive value between the negative input
6 terminal of the op amp and ground.

7 31. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
8 element comprises:

9 two forward biased diodes coupled across the oscillator circuit through a first
10 resistor;

11 two reverse biased diodes coupled across the oscillator circuit through a
12 second resistor; and

13 an op amp coupled across the oscillator circuit through a resistive feedback
14 network.

15 32. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
16 element comprises two diodes arranged in opposite polarity across the oscillator
17 circuit through corresponding resistors, wherein the switch shorts the two diodes in
18 response to the information signal and causes the chaotic transmitting circuit to stop
19 oscillating in a chaotic manner.

20 33. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25,

21 wherein the oscillator and chaotic circuit comprise circuit elements having
22 values selected so as to cause the chaotic transmitting circuit to oscillate in a single-
23 scroll attractor mode.

24 34. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 33,

25 wherein the oscillator circuit comprises an inductance and a first capacitance;

26 wherein the chaotic circuit comprises a second capacitance; and

27 wherein the values of the first capacitance, the second capacitance, the
28 inductance, and the resistance are selected so as to cause the chaotic transmitting
29 circuit to oscillate in a single-scroll attractor mode.

30 35. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25,

1 wherein the oscillator and chaotic circuit comprise circuit elements having
2 values selected so as to cause the chaotic transmitting circuit to oscillate in a double-
3 scroll attractor mode.

4 36. A nonlinear circuit element for use in a chaotic transmitter, comprising:
5 a first pair of diodes coupled in series and biased in a forward direction with
6 respect to first and second circuit terminals;

7 a second pair of diodes coupled in series and biased in a reverse direction
8 with respect to the first and second circuit terminals;

9 a first resistor coupled between the first pair of diodes and one of the circuit
10 terminals;

11 a second resistor coupled between the second pair of diodes and one of the
12 circuit terminals; and

13 an op amp coupled between the first and second circuit terminals through a
14 resistive network;

15 wherein the first resistor, the second resistor, and the resistive network have
16 values selected to bias the nonlinear circuit element such that it exhibits a piecewise
17 linear current-voltage characteristic across the first and second terminals.

18 37. The nonlinear circuit element of claim 36, further comprising:

19 a fourth resistor coupled to the resistive network; and

20 a switch that couples the fourth resistor into the resistive network, thus
21 changing a slope of the piecewise linear current-voltage characteristic of the
22 nonlinear circuit element in response to an information signal.

23 38. A communication system comprising a transmitter and a receiver,
24 wherein the transmitter comprises

25 an oscillator circuit;

26 a resistor coupled to the oscillator circuit;

27 a chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit through the resistor, wherein
28 the chaotic circuit causes a voltage to oscillate about a first equilibrium point on a
29 current-voltage characteristic curve of the chaotic circuit element; and

30 a switch coupled to the chaotic circuit element, wherein the switch changes

1 a nonreactive resistive value in the chaotic circuit in accordance with an information
2 signal and thereby causes the first equilibrium point to shift to a shifted first
3 equilibrium point; and wherein the receiver comprises
4 a second oscillator circuit;
5 a second resistor coupled to the second oscillator circuit;
6 a second chaotic circuit coupled to the second oscillator circuit through the
7 second resistor; and
8 a detector coupled to the second oscillator circuit and the second chaotic
9 circuit;
10 wherein the second oscillator circuit and the second chaotic circuit comprise
11 circuit components selected such that they cause the receiver to synchronize with the
12 transmitter when the transmitter transmits according to the first equilibrium point;
13 and
14 wherein the detector detects whether the receiver is synchronized and, in
15 response to detecting synchronization, generates a signal.

16 39. The system of claim 38, wherein the transmitter and the receiver each
17 oscillate chaotically about a single-scroll attractor.

18 40. The system of claim 38, wherein the transmitter and the receiver each
19 oscillate chaotically about double-scroll attractors.

20 41. A chaotic receiver comprising:
21 an input terminal for receiving a chaotically modulated signal;
22 an oscillating circuit coupled to the input terminal;
23 a chaotic circuit comprising a capacitor and a negative resistance element,
24 wherein the chaotic circuit is coupled to the oscillating circuit through a resistor,
25 wherein the chaotic circuit causes a voltage to oscillate about an equilibrium point
26 corresponding to a current-voltage characteristic curve of the negative resistance
27 element;
28 a synchronizing resistor coupled between the input terminal and the negative
29 resistance element; and
30 a comparator, coupled across the synchronizing resistor, wherein the

1 comparator generates an output signal when a voltage drop across the synchronizing
2 resistor reaches a predetermined level; and

3 wherein the synchronizing resistor has a value that satisfies the relation

4 $R_{sync} \leq (1/(2f_{LC} \times C_1))$

5 where f_{LC} is the fundamental frequency of the oscillator circuit, and where C_1 is the
6 capacitance of the capacitor.

7 42. A chaotic receiver comprising:

8 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;

9 an oscillator coupled to the input terminal;

10 a chaotic circuit comprising a capacitor and a negative resistance circuit;

11 a gain control amplifier coupled between the oscillator and the chaotic circuit,

12 wherein the gain control amplifier amplifies a voltage present at the oscillator before
13 it reaches the chaotic circuit;

14 a synchronizing resistor coupled between the input terminal and the chaotic
15 circuit; and

16 a detection circuit, coupled to the synchronizing resistor, wherein the
17 detection circuit detects periods of synchronization and non-synchronization between
18 the modulated chaotic signal and the chaotic circuit and generates an output
19 corresponding to periods of synchronization and non-synchronization.

20 43. The chaotic receiver of claim 42, wherein the gain control amplifier
21 provides an amplification of between 2.4 dB to 3 dB.

22 44. A chaotic communication system comprising:

23 a transmitter that generates a chaotic carrier signal modulated in accordance
24 with an information signal; and

25 a receiving system having an input terminal that receives the chaotic carrier
26 signal modulated by the transmitter, wherein the receiving system comprises

27 an oscillator subsystem coupled to the input terminal;

28 a gain control amplifier coupled to the output of the oscillator subsystem;

29 a chaotic subsystem coupled to the output of the gain control amplifier;

1 a synchronizing subsystem coupled to the chaotic subsystem and to the input
2 terminal, which causes the chaotic subsystem to synchronize to the chaotic carrier
3 signal; and

4 a detector coupled to the chaotic subsystem and the input terminal, wherein
5 the detector detects periods of synchronization and non-synchronization;

6 wherein the gain control amplifier amplifies a signal produced by the
7 oscillator subsystem and drives the chaotic subsystem with the amplified signal, and
8 wherein the chaotic subsystem generates a signal that synchronizes with the
9 modulated chaotic signal when the transmitter transmits a symbol of information.

10 45. A chaotic transmitter, comprising:

11 an oscillator;

12 a resistor coupled to the oscillator;

13 a chaotic circuit comprising a negative resistance, wherein the chaotic circuit
14 is coupled to the oscillator circuit through the resistor;

15 an isolation amplifier coupled to the chaotic circuit;

16 a filter coupled to the output of the isolation amplifier that limits a frequency
17 bandwidth present at the chaotic circuit; and

18 means for modulating a circuit element of the chaotic transmitter in
19 accordance with an information signal.

20 46. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the filter comprises a
21 lowpass filter.

22 47. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the filter comprises a
23 bandpass filter.

24 48. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the filter matches a
25 bandwidth of the chaotic transmitter to a transmission medium.

26 49. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the means for modulating
27 comprises a switch that switches a reactive component in the oscillator, thereby
28 changing a strange attractor trajectory generated by the transmitter.

29 50. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the means for modulating
30 comprises a switch that switches a reactive component in the chaotic circuit, thereby

- 1 changing a strange attractor trajectory generated by the transmitter.
- 2 51. The chaotic transmitter of claim 45, wherein the means for modulating
3 comprises a switch that changes a non-reactive resistive value in the chaotic circuit,
4 thereby changing a current-voltage characteristic of the negative resistive element.
- 5 52. The chaotic transmitter of claim 51, wherein the transmitter oscillates
6 about a single-scroll attractor.
- 7 53. The chaotic transmitter of claim 51, wherein the transmitter oscillates
8 about a double-scroll attractor.
- 9 54. A chaotic receiver, comprising:
10 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;
11 a first filter, coupled to the input terminal, which filters the modulated chaotic
12 signal and produces a filtered modulated chaotic signal;
13 an oscillator coupled to an output of the first filter;
14 a chaotic circuit comprising a negative resistor, wherein the chaotic circuit is
15 coupled to the oscillator;
16 a synchronizing circuit coupled between the first filter and the chaotic circuit,
17 wherein the synchronizing circuit generates a voltage difference in response to an
18 out-of-synchronization condition between the filtered modulated chaotic signal and
19 the chaotic circuit;
20 a second filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
21 filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal;
22 a third filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
23 filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit; and
24 a detection circuit, coupled to the second and third filters, wherein the
25 detection circuit detects periods of synchronization and non-synchronization between
26 the modulated chaotic signal and the chaotic circuit and generates an output
27 corresponding to periods of synchronization and non-synchronization.
- 28 55. A chaotic receiver, comprising:
29 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;
30 a first filter, coupled to the input terminal, which filters the modulated chaotic

1 signal and produces a filtered modulated chaotic signal;
2 an oscillator coupled to the input terminal;
3 a chaotic circuit comprising a circuit element that exhibits a nonlinear
4 current-voltage characteristic, wherein the chaotic circuit is coupled to the oscillator;
5 a synchronizing circuit coupled between the first filter and the chaotic circuit,
6 wherein the synchronizing circuit generates a voltage difference in response to an
7 out-of-synchronization condition between the filtered modulated chaotic signal and
8 the chaotic circuit;
9 a second filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
10 filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal;
11 a third filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
12 filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit; and
13 a detection circuit, coupled to the second and third filters, wherein the
14 detection circuit detects periods of synchronization and non-synchronization between
15 the modulated chaotic signal and the chaotic circuit and generates an output
16 corresponding to periods of synchronization and non-synchronization.

17 56. A chaotic receiver, comprising:
18 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;
19 a first filter, coupled to the input terminal, which filters the modulated chaotic
20 signal and produces a filtered modulated chaotic signal;
21 an oscillating circuit coupled to the first filter;
22 a chaotic circuit comprising a circuit element that exhibits a nonlinear
23 current-voltage characteristic, wherein the chaotic circuit is coupled to the oscillating
24 circuit through a second filter;
25 a third filter, coupled to the output of the first filter, which further filters the
26 output of the first filter;
27 a synchronizing circuit coupled between the third filter and the chaotic circuit,
28 wherein the synchronizing circuit generates a voltage difference in response to an
29 out-of-synchronization condition between a signal from the third filter and the
30 chaotic circuit;

1 a fourth filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
2 filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal;

3 a fifth filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
4 filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit; and

5 a detection circuit, coupled to the fourth and fifth filters, wherein the
6 detection circuit detects periods of synchronization and non-synchronization between
7 the modulated chaotic signal and the chaotic circuit and generates an output
8 corresponding to periods of synchronization and non-synchronization.

9 57. A chaotic telephone device comprising:

10 a chaotic transmitter that receives a first information signal and generates in
11 response thereto a first chaotic trajectory shifted signal modulated in accordance with
12 the first information signal;

13 a chaotic receiver that receives a second chaotic trajectory shifted signal
14 modulated in accordance with a second information signal and generates in response
15 thereto a demodulated version of the second chaotic trajectory shifted signal; and

16 an interface circuit that couples the chaotic transmitter and chaotic receiver
17 to a radio-frequency telephone circuit, wherein the radio-frequency telephone circuit
18 communicates with a ground-based telephone network through one or more radio
19 frequency transmission stations.

20 58. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
21 and the chaotic receiver respectively modulate and demodulate signals at baseband
22 frequencies.

23 59. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
24 and the chaotic receiver respectively modulate and demodulate signals at an
25 intermediate frequency band that falls between the frequency band of the first and
26 second information signals and a radio frequency band used by the radio-frequency
27 telephone circuit.

28 60. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
29 and the chaotic receiver respectively modulate and demodulate signals at a radio
30 frequency band used by the radio-frequency telephone circuit.

1 61. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
2 and the chaotic receiver respectively modulate and demodulate signals in a single-
3 scroll strange attractor phase space.

4 62. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
5 and the chaotic receiver respectively modulate and demodulate signals in a double-
6 scroll strange attractor phase space.

7 63. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
8 modulates using a first set of strange attractor parameters that match a set of strange
9 attractor parameters in a corresponding receiver associated with the one or more radio
10 frequency transmission stations; and wherein the chaotic receiver demodulates using
11 a second set of strange attractor parameters in a corresponding transmitter associated
12 with the one or more radio frequency transmission stations.

13 64. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic receiver
14 comprises:

15 an oscillator;

16 a chaotic circuit comprising a circuit element that exhibits a nonlinear
17 current-voltage characteristic; and

18 a gain control amplifier coupled between the oscillator and the chaotic circuit,
19 wherein the gain control amplifier amplifies a voltage present at the oscillator before
20 it reaches the chaotic circuit.

21 65. The chaotic telephone device of claim 64,

22 wherein the chaotic receiver further comprises a synchronizing resistor
23 coupled between an input of the chaotic receiver and the chaotic circuit; and

24 further comprising a detection circuit, coupled to the synchronizing resistor,
25 wherein the detection circuit detects periods of synchronization and non-
26 synchronization between the second modulated chaotic signal and the chaotic circuit
27 and generates an output corresponding to periods of synchronization and non-
28 synchronization.

29 66. The chaotic telephone device of claim 57, wherein the chaotic transmitter
30 comprises:

1 an oscillator circuit;
2 a resistor coupled to the oscillator circuit;
3 a chaotic circuit comprising a circuit element that exhibits a nonlinear
4 current-voltage characteristic, wherein the chaotic circuit is coupled to the oscillator
5 circuit through the resistor;
6 an isolation amplifier coupled to the chaotic circuit;
7 a filter coupled to the output of the isolation amplifier that limits a frequency
8 bandwidth present at the chaotic circuit; and
9 means for modulating a circuit element of the chaotic transmitter in
10 accordance with the first information signal.

11 67. A method of communicating between a portable telephone device and a
12 base station, comprising the steps of:

13 (1) generating an information signal at the portable telephone device;
14 (2) modulating a chaotic carrier signal with the information signal using a
15 chaotic trajectory shifting technique;
16 (3) transmitting the chaotic trajectory shift-keyed signal generated in step (2)
17 to the base station; and
18 (4) in the base station, demodulating the transmitted signal to recover the
19 information signal.

20 68. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the step of changing
21 a non-reactive resistive value in a chaotic circuit element to cause a strange attractor
22 trajectory shift.

23 69. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the step of generating a
24 chaotic carrier signal that oscillates about two equilibrium points in a
25 current-voltage phase space, and further comprising the step of causing both
26 equilibrium points to shift in the current-voltage phase space.

27 70. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the step of using a
28 nonlinear circuit element that exhibits a piecewise linear current-voltage
29 characteristic comprising three linear segments, two of the segments having a first
30 slope in the phase space and the third segment having a second slope in the phase

1 space, and where step (2) comprises the step of changing either the first slope or the
2 second slope but not both slopes in response to the information signal.

3 71. The method of claim 67, wherein step (4) comprises the step of detecting
4 periods of synchronization and non-synchronization between the signal the received
5 chaotic trajectory shift-keyed signal generated and a locally-generated chaotic signal
6 using a circuit matched to a transmitter used to transmit in step (3).

7 72. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the steps of:

8 (a) modulating at a baseband frequency level; and
9 (b) frequency translating the modulated baseband signal to a radio frequency
10 band.

11 73. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the steps of:

12 (a) modulating at an intermediate frequency band which falls between a
13 frequency band of the information signal and a radio frequency band used by
14 transmitting equipment; and

15 (b) frequency translating the modulated intermediate frequency signal to the
16 radio frequency band of the transmitting equipment.

17 74. The method of claim 67, wherein step (2) comprises the steps of:

18 (a) modulating the information signal directly to a radio frequency band; and
19 (b) directly transmitting the modulated information signal in the radio
20 frequency band.

21 75. A chaotic transmitter, comprising:

22 a first chaotic circuit that generates a first chaotic signal having a first strange
23 attractor trajectory;

24 a second chaotic circuit that generates a second chaotic signal having a
25 second strange attractor trajectory different from that of the first strange attractor
26 trajectory;

27 a switch coupled to the first and second chaotic circuits, wherein the switch
28 selects either the first chaotic signal or the second chaotic signal in response to an
29 information signal; and

30 a low-pass filter coupled to the output of the switch.

1 76. The chaotic transmitter of claim 75, wherein the first and second chaotic
2 circuits each generate a single-scroll strange attractor chaotic signal.

3 77. The chaotic transmitter of claim 75, wherein the first and second chaotic
4 circuits each generate a double-scroll strange attractor chaotic signal.

5 78. The chaotic transmitter of claim 75, further comprising a summing circuit
6 coupled between the switch and the low-pass filter, wherein the summing circuit
7 sums the output from the switch.

8 79. A method of transmitting an information signal, comprising the steps of:

9 (1) generating a first chaotic signal comprising at least one strange attractor
10 that oscillates about a first equilibrium point;

11 (2) generating a second chaotic signal comprising at least a second strange
12 attractor that oscillates about a second equilibrium point;

13 (3) in response to the information signal, selecting an output of either the first
14 chaotic signal or the second chaotic signal; and

15 (4) transmitting the selected output from step (3).

16 80. The method of claim 79, further comprising the step of filtering the
17 output selected in step (3).

18 81. The method of claim 79, wherein steps (1) and (2) each comprise the step
19 of generating a single-scroll strange attractor chaotic signal.

20 82. The method of claim 79, wherein steps (1) and (2) each comprise the step
21 of generating a double-scroll strange attractor chaotic signal.

22 83. A chaotic receiver, comprising:

23 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;

24 an oscillator circuit coupled to the input terminal;

25 a first chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit and tuned to a first
26 strange attractor;

27 a second chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit and tuned to a second
28 strange attractor; and

29 means for detecting a difference between the modulated chaotic signal
30 received at the input terminal and respective signals generated by the first and second

1 chaotic circuits.

2 84. The chaotic receiver of claim 83, further comprising a third chaotic
3 circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit and tuned to a third strange attractor; wherein
4 the means for detecting a difference further detects a difference between the
5 modulated chaotic signal received at the input terminal and a signal generated by the
6 third chaotic circuit.

7 85. A method of demodulating a signal modulated according to a chaotic
8 trajectory shift-keying technique, comprising the steps of:

9 (1) receiving a modulated chaotic signal modulated according to a chaotic
10 trajectory shift-keying technique;

11 (2) using the modulated chaotic signal to drive an oscillator;

12 (3) using the modulated chaotic signal and an output of the oscillator to drive
13 a first chaotic circuit tuned to a first strange attractor;

14 (4) using the modulated chaotic signal and an output of the oscillator circuit
15 to drive a second chaotic circuit tuned to a second strange attractor; and

16 (5) detecting a difference between the modulated chaotic signal and
17 respective signals generated by the first and second chaotic circuits.

18 86. The method of claim 85, further comprising the step of using the
19 modulated chaotic signal and an output of the oscillator circuit to drive a third chaotic
20 circuit tuned to a third strange attractor, and wherein step (5) comprises the step of
21 detecting a difference between the modulated chaotic signal and a signal generated
22 by the third chaotic circuit.

23 87. The receiver of claim 83, wherein the means for detecting comprises:

24 a plurality of synchronizing resistors each of which generates a voltage drop
25 in response to a difference between the modulated chaotic signal and a corresponding
26 one of the first and second chaotic circuits;

27 means for buffering the plurality of synchronizing resistors and generating
28 buffered outputs therefrom;

29 means for attenuating the buffered outputs; and

30 means for subtracting the buffered outputs to generate a detected signal.

- 1 88. The method of claim 85, wherein step (5) comprises the steps of:
2 (a) generating a voltage drop in response to a difference between the
3 modulated chaotic signal and a corresponding one of the first and second chaotic
4 circuits;
5 (b) buffering the plurality of synchronizing resistors and generating buffered
6 outputs therefrom;
7 (c) attenuating the buffered outputs; and
8 (d) subtracting the buffered outputs to generate a detected signal.
9 89. The chaotic receiver of claim 83, further comprising means for
10 generating an absolute value of the difference signal.
11 90. The method of claim 85, further comprising the step of:
12 (6) generating an absolute value signal from the difference detected in step
13 (5).
14 91. The chaotic receiver of claim 83, wherein the means for detecting a
15 difference comprises at least two synchronizing resistors, each respectively coupled
16 between the oscillator and one of the first and second chaotic circuits, the chaotic
17 receiver further comprising:
18 first and second subtractor circuits, each coupled across a corresponding one
19 of the two synchronizing resistors;
20 a third subtractor circuit, coupled to the first and second subtractor circuits,
21 wherein the third subtractor circuit generates a difference signal from the first and
22 second subtractor circuits;
23 an absolute value circuit, coupled to the third subtractor circuit, which
24 generates an absolute value signal from the third subtractor circuit; and
25 a squaring circuit that generates a squared version of the absolute value
26 signal.
27 92. The method of claim 85, wherein step (5) comprises the step of
28 generating a voltage drop in response to a difference between the modulated chaotic
29 signal and a corresponding one of the first and second chaotic circuits, the method
30 further comprising the steps of:

- 1 (6) generating first and second difference signals corresponding to first and
2 second voltage drops from the first and second chaotic circuits;
3 (7) subtracting the first and second difference signals and generating a third
4 difference signal therefrom;
5 (9) generating an absolute value signal from the third difference signal; and
6 (10) generating a squared version of the absolute value signal.

7 93. The chaotic receiver of claim 83, wherein the means for detecting a
8 difference comprises at least two synchronizing resistors, each respectively coupled
9 between the oscillator and one of the first and second chaotic circuits, the chaotic
10 receiver further comprising:

11 first and second subtractor circuits, each coupled across a corresponding one
12 of the two synchronizing resistors;

13 first and second absolute value circuits, each coupled to a corresponding one
14 of the first and second subtractor circuits;

15 a third subtractor circuit, coupled to the first and second absolute value
16 circuits, which generates a subtracted absolute value signal; and

17 a squaring circuit that generates a squared version of the subtracted absolute
18 value signal.

19 94. The method of claim 85, wherein step (5) comprises the step of
20 generating a voltage drop in response to a difference between the modulated chaotic
21 signal and a corresponding one of the first and second chaotic circuits, the method
22 further comprising the steps of:

23 (6) generating first and second difference signals corresponding to first and
24 second voltage drops from the first and second chaotic circuits;

25 (7) generating first and second absolute value signals from the first and
26 second difference signals;

27 (8) subtracting the first and second first and second absolute value signals and
28 generating therefrom a subtracted absolute value signal; and

29 (9) generating a squared version of the subtracted absolute value signal.

30 95. A chaotic receiver, comprising:

1 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;
2 an oscillator coupled to the input terminal;
3 a first chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator and tuned to a first strange
4 attractor;
5 a second chaotic circuit coupled to the oscillator circuit and tuned to a second
6 strange attractor; and
7 a detector circuit coupled to the first and second chaotic circuits, wherein the
8 detector circuit subtracts signals present at the first and second chaotic circuits and
9 generates an absolute value signal based on the subtracted signal.

10 96. A method of demodulating a signal modulated according to a trajectory
11 shift-keying technique, comprising the steps of:

12 (1) receiving a modulated chaotic signal;
13 (2) using the modulated chaotic signal to drive an oscillator circuit;
14 (3) using the modulated chaotic signal and an output of the oscillator circuit
15 to drive a first chaotic circuit comprising a first nonlinear circuit element and tuned
16 to a first strange attractor;
17 (4) using the modulated chaotic signal and an output of the oscillator circuit
18 to drive a second chaotic circuit comprising a second nonlinear circuit element and
19 tuned to a second strange attractor; and
20 (5) detecting a difference between first and second signals present at the first
21 and second chaotic circuits, respectively, by subtracting the first and second signals
22 and generating an absolute value thereof.

23 97. The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of
24 continuously varying the non-reactive resistive value over a chaotic operating region
25 in accordance with the information signal.

26 98. The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of changing
27 the non-reactive resistive value to one of a plurality of uniquely coded vectors within
28 a chaotic operating region which, when received at a matched receiver, will generate
29 a corresponding unique code.

1 99. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the means for changing continuously
2 varies the non-reactive resistance over a chaotic operating region in accordance with
3 the information signal.

4 100. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the means for changing sets the non-
5 reactive resistive value to one of a plurality of uniquely coded vectors within a
6 chaotic operating region which, when received at a matched receiver, will generate
7 a corresponding unique code.

8 101. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the switch continuously varies the
9 non-reactive resistance over a chaotic operating region in accordance with the
10 information signal.

11 102. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the switch sets the non-reactive
12 resistive value to one of a plurality of uniquely coded vectors within a chaotic
13 operating region which, when received at a matched receiver, will generate a
14 corresponding unique code.

15 103. A method of transmitting information, comprising the steps of:

16 (1) in response to receiving a time-varying N-bit code representing a unit of
17 information, selecting a corresponding one of a plurality of 2^N transmitters each of
18 which generates a chaotic strange attractor signal that is distinct from others in the
19 plurality of 2^N transmitters; and

20 (2) transmitting through a communications channel the chaotic strange
21 attractor signal selected in step (1).

22 104. The method of claim 103, wherein N is at least 2.

23 105. The method of claim 103, wherein N is at least 8.

24 106. (plus reception method, DEH/CPG) The method of claim 103, further
25 comprising the steps of:

26 (3) receiving the chaotic strange attractor signal transmitted in step (2);

27 (4) matching the signal received in step (3) to one of a plurality of 2^N
28 receivers each of which is matched to a corresponding one of the plurality of 2^N
29 transmitters; and

1 (5) on the basis of the receiver matched in step (4), recovering the N-bit code
2 received in step (1).

3 107. A method of recovering information transmitted through a
4 communication channel, comprising the steps of:

5 (1) receiving a time-varying signal comprising discrete portions of each of a
6 plurality of chaotic strange attractor signals;

7 (2) matching the signal received in step (1) to one of a plurality of 2^N
8 receivers each of which is tuned to a different strange attractor signal; and)

9 (3) on the basis of the receiver matched in step (2), generating an N-bit code.

10 108. The method of claim 107, wherein N is at least 2.)

11 109. The method of claim 107, wherein N is at least 8.

12 110. A transmitting system capable of transmitting N bits of information,
13 comprising:

14 a plurality of 2^N transmitters each of which generates a chaotic strange
15 attractor signal that is distinct from others in the plurality of 2^N transmitters;

16 a switch which, in response to receiving a time-varying N-bit code
17 representing a unit of information, selects a corresponding one of the plurality of 2^N
18 transmitters; and

19 a transmission circuit that transmits the selected chaotic strange attractor
20 signal across a transmission channel.

21 111. A receiving system comprising:

22 a receiving circuit that receives a time-varying signal comprising a plurality
23 of discrete portions of each of a plurality of chaotic strange attractor signals;

24 a plurality of 2^N receivers each of which is tuned to one of a corresponding
25 number of 2^N transmitters;

26 a plurality of detectors each of which detects whether a corresponding one of
27 the plurality of 2^N receivers has received a matching signal; and

28 a switching circuit which, in response to one of the detectors detecting a
29 corresponding match, generates an N-bit code representing a transmitted unit of
30 information.

1 112. An information transmission system comprising a transmitting system
2 according to claim 110 and a receiving system, wherein the receiving system
3 comprises:

4 a receiving circuit that receives a time-varying signal comprising a plurality
5 of discrete portions of each of a plurality of chaotic strange attractor signals;

6 a plurality of 2^N receivers each of which is tuned to one of the 2^N transmitters;

7 a plurality of detectors each of which detects whether a corresponding one of
8 the plurality of 2^N receivers has received a matching signal; and

9 a switching circuit which, in response to one of the detectors detecting a
10 corresponding match, generates an N-bit code representing a transmitted unit of
11 information.

12 113. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of
13 using a digitally implemented nonlinear circuit having a current-voltage
14 characteristic that satisfies the equation $I = -aV - bV^3$, where a and b are constants.

15 114. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 15, wherein the chaotic circuit
16 comprises a digitally implemented circuit having a current-voltage characteristic that
17 satisfies the equation $I = -aV - bV^3$, where a and b are constants.

18 115. The chaotic transmitting circuit of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit
19 comprises a digitally implemented circuit having a current-voltage characteristic that
20 satisfies the equation $I = -aV - bV^3$, where a and b are constants.

21 116. A chaotic receiver comprising:

22 an input terminal that receives a modulated chaotic signal;

23 an oscillator circuit coupled to the input terminal and driven by the modulated
24 chaotic signal;

25 a chaotic circuit comprising an upper slope circuit that implements a first
26 current-voltage function in an upper quadrant of a current-voltage response plane and
27 a lower slope circuit that implements a second current-voltage function in a lower
28 quadrant of the current-voltage response plane, wherein the first and second current-
29 voltage functions have a different voltage offset, and wherein the upper and lower
30 slope circuits cooperate with the oscillator circuit to generate a local chaotic signal;

1 a synchronizing circuit, coupled to the oscillator circuit and the chaotic
2 circuit, wherein the synchronizing circuit detects differences between the modulated
3 chaotic signal at the input terminal and the local chaotic signal; and

4 a detector coupled to the synchronizing circuit which detects periods of
5 synchronization and non-synchronization.

6 117. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, wherein the upper and lower slope
7 circuits each comprise a voltage source coupled to a negative resistance circuit.

8 118. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, further comprising:
9 a first analog-to-digital converter coupled to the oscillator circuit;
10 a second analog-to-digital converter coupled to the upper slope circuit; and
11 a third analog-to-digital converter coupled to the lower slope circuit;
12 wherein the detector detects periods of synchronization and non-
13 synchronization with respect to the output of each of the first, second, and third
14 analog-to-digital converters.

15 119. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, further comprising:
16 a first filter, coupled between the input terminal and the oscillator circuit,
17 wherein the first filter filters the modulated chaotic signal and produces a filtered
18 modulated chaotic signal;

19 a second filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, wherein
20 the second filter filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal;
21 and

22 a third filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, wherein
23 the third filter filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit; and

24 wherein the detector is coupled to respective outputs of the second and third
25 filters.

26 120. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, further comprising:
27 a first filter, coupled between the input terminal and the synchronizing circuit,
28 wherein the first filter filters the modulated chaotic signal and produces a filtered
29 modulated chaotic signal;

30 a second filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, wherein

1 the second filter filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal;
2 and

3 a third filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, wherein
4 the third filter filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit; and
5 wherein the detector is coupled to respective outputs of the second and third
6 filters.

7 121. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, further comprising:
8 a first filter, coupled between the input terminal and the oscillator circuit,
9 wherein the first filter filters the modulated chaotic signal and produces a filtered
10 modulated chaotic signal;

11 a second filter coupled between the chaotic circuit and the oscillating circuit;
12 a third filter, coupled to an output of the first filter, which further filters the
13 output of the first filter;

14 wherein the synchronizing circuit is coupled between the third filter and the
15 chaotic circuit, and wherein the synchronizing circuit generates a voltage difference
16 in response to an out-of-synchronization condition between a signal from the third
17 filter and the chaotic circuit;

18 a fourth filter, coupled to a first portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
19 filters a buffered version of the filtered modulated chaotic signal; and

20 a fifth filter, coupled to a second portion of the synchronizing circuit, which
21 filters a signal generated by the chaotic circuit;

22 wherein the detection circuit is coupled to respective outputs of the fourth and
23 fifth filters.

24 122. The apparatus of claim 116, wherein the upper slope circuit satisfies the
25 relation $I = GbV + GaV_{bp} - GbV_{bp}$; wherein the lower slope circuit satisfies the
26 relation $I = GbV - GaV_{bp} + GbV_b$, where I is the current through each respective
27 slope circuit, Gb is a first slope constant, V is the voltage across the respective slope
28 circuit, Ga is a second slope constant, and V_{bp} is a breakpoint voltage.

29 123. A method of demodulating a chaotically modulated signal, comprising
30 the steps of:

1 (1) receiving the chaotically modulated signal;
2 (2) applying the signal received in step (1) to an oscillator through a resistor
3 that defines a load line;
4 (3) applying the signal applied to the oscillator in step (2) to first and second
5 slope detector circuits each of which defines a linear current-voltage function that
6 intercepts the load line in a different quadrant of a current-voltage plane;
7 (4) applying respective outputs of the first and second slope detector circuits
8 to a synchronizing resistor circuit that generates voltage differences corresponding
9 to differences between each respective slope detector circuit and the chaotically
10 modulated signal received in step (1); and
11 (5) detecting an output from the synchronizing resistor circuit to provide a
12 demodulated signal.

13 124. The method of claim 123, wherein step (4) comprises the step of
14 using at least one slope detector circuit that satisfies the relation $I = G_b V - G_a V_{bp}$
15 + $G_b V_b$, where I is the current through the slope detector circuit, G_b is a first
16 slope constant, V is the voltage across the slope detector circuit, G_a is a second
17 slope constant, and V_{bp} is a breakpoint voltage.

18 125. The method of claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of using a
19 circuit that exhibits a linear slope in one quadrant of the current-voltage characteristic
20 curve, and wherein step (2) comprises the step of changing the linear slope in the one
21 quadrant.

22 126. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the means for changing comprises
23 a voltage source and a switch that shifts a slope in one quadrant of the current-voltage
24 characteristic shape.

25 127. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the switch switches a voltage source
26 to shift to the shifted first equilibrium point.

27 128. The apparatus of claim 75, wherein the first chaotic circuit exhibits a
28 first current slope that is offset to intersect a load line in an upper quadrant of a
29 current-voltage characteristic curve; and wherein the second chaotic circuit exhibits
30 a second current slope that is offset to intersect the load line in a lower quadrant of

1 the current-voltage characteristic curve.

2 129. The method of claim 79, wherein step (1) comprises the step of
3 generating a first chaotic signal that oscillates about a first equilibrium point in an
4 upper quadrant of a current-voltage phase space of a chaotic circuit element, and
5 wherein step (2) comprises the step of generating a second chaotic signal that
6 oscillates about a second equilibrium point in a lower quadrant of the current-voltage
7 phase space.

8 130. The method of claim 125, further comprising the step of filtering an
9 output of the circuit to limit its frequency bandwidth.

10 131. The apparatus of claim 126, further comprising a filter coupled to an
11 output of the chaotic circuit that limits a frequency bandwidth thereof.

12 132. The apparatus of claim 127, further comprising a filter coupled to an
13 output of the chaotic circuit that limits a frequency bandwidth thereof.

14 133. The chaotic receiver of claim 116, wherein the upper and lower slope
15 circuits each implement current-voltage functions having the same positive slope.

16 134. The chaotic receiver of claim 133, wherein each of the upper and lower
17 slope circuits define asymptotically stable intersection points with a negative
18 resistive load line.

19 135. A method of demodulating a chaotically modulated signal, comprising
20 the steps of:

21 (1) receiving the chaotically modulated signal;

22 (2) applying the signal received in step (1) to an oscillator through a resistor
23 that defines a current-voltage load line;

24 (3) applying the signal applied to the oscillator in step (2) to a slope detector
25 circuit that exhibits a current slope function opposite in polarity to that of the load
26 line and which intersects the load line at an equilibrium point corresponding to an
27 equilibrium point of a transmitter;

28 (4) generating a difference signal representing a difference between the
29 chaotically modulated signal received in step (1) and the output of the slope detector
30 circuit; and

1 (5) recovering an information signal on the basis of the difference signal
2 generated in step (4).

3 136. The method of claim 135, wherein step (3) comprises the step of
4 applying the signal applied to the oscillator in step (2) to a second slope detector
5 circuit that exhibits a second current slope function opposite in polarity to that of the
6 load line but which intersects the load line at a different equilibrium point; and
7 wherein step (4) comprises the step of generating a second difference signal
8 representing a difference between the chaotically modulated signal received in step
9 (1) and the output of the second slope detector circuit.

10 137. A chaotic receiving circuit, comprising:
11 an input terminal that receives a chaotically modulated signal;
12 a resistor coupled to the input terminal, wherein the resistor defines a current-
13 voltage load line;
14 an oscillator circuit coupled to the input terminal through the resistor and
15 driven by the chaotically modulated signal;
16 a chaotic circuit comprising an upper slope circuit that implements a first
17 current-voltage function in an upper quadrant of a current-voltage response plane and
18 a lower slope circuit that implements a second current-voltage function in a lower
19 quadrant of the current-voltage response plane, wherein the first and second current-
20 voltage functions have a positive slope but are offset by a voltage difference and
21 respectively intersect the current-voltage load line in the upper and lower quadrants
22 of the current-voltage response plane;
23 a synchronizing circuit, coupled to the oscillator circuit and the chaotic
24 circuit, wherein the synchronizing circuit detects differences between the chaotically
25 modulated signal and signals respectively present at the upper and lower slope
26 circuits; and
27 a detector coupled to the synchronizing circuit which recovers an information
28 signal on the basis of the differences.

29 138. The chaotic receiving circuit of claim 137, further comprising a plurality
30 of upper slope detector circuits and a plurality of lower slope detector circuits,

1 wherein each upper slope circuit and each lower slope circuit intersects the current-
2 voltage load line at a different point, each point corresponding to a symbol of
3 information.

4 139. The chaotic receiving circuit of claim 137, wherein the detector
5 comprises a first analog-to-digital converter coupled to an output of the oscillator
6 circuit, a second analog-to-digital converter coupled to upper slope circuit, and a
7 third analog-to-digital converter coupled to the lower slope circuit, wherein the
8 outputs of the first, second, and third analog-to-digital converters are used to recover
9 the information signal.

10 140. The method of claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of using a
11 circuit that exhibits a positive linear slope, and wherein step (2) comprises the step
12 of changing the positive linear slope.

13 141. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the chaotic circuit exhibits a
14 positive linear slope.

15 142. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the chaotic circuit exhibits a
16 positive linear slope.

17 143. The apparatus of claim 75, wherein the first chaotic circuit exhibits a
18 first positive linear current slope that is offset to intersect a load line in an upper
19 quadrant of a current-voltage characteristic curve; and wherein the second chaotic
20 circuit exhibits a second positive linear current slope that is offset to intersect the
21 load line in a lower quadrant of the current-voltage characteristic curve.

22 144. A method of transmitting information, comprising the steps of:

23 (1) generating a chaotic carrier signal characterized by a voltage that
24 oscillates chaotically about a first equilibrium point in a current-voltage plane,
25 wherein the first equilibrium point is defined by an intersection of a current-voltage
26 load line having a first slope and a current-voltage slope line having a second slope
27 opposite in polarity to that of the first slope;

28 (2) in response to a time-varying information signal comprising an N-bit
29 symbol, selecting one of a plurality of 2^N equilibrium points defined by successive
30 intersections of a plurality of current-voltage slope lines having slopes opposite to

1 that of the load line and that intersect the load line at different points;

2 (3) shifting the first equilibrium point to the one selected equilibrium point
3 such that the chaotic carrier signal oscillates chaotically about the one selected
4 equilibrium point; and

5 (4) transmitting the chaotic carrier signal shifted in step (3).

6 145. The method of claim 144, wherein step (3) comprises the step of
7 changing a nonreactive circuit value in a chaotic circuit coupled to a resistor that
8 defines the current-voltage load line.

9 146. The method of claim 144, further comprising the steps of:

10 (5) receiving the signal transmitted in step (4);

11 (6) determining which of the plurality of equilibrium points corresponds to
12 the signal received in step (5); and

13 (7) on the basis of the determination in step (6), generating an information
14 symbol.

15 147. Apparatus for transmitting a modulated chaotic signal, comprising:

16 a computer that generates, in response to an information signal, a digital
17 word comprising N bits;

18 a digital-to-analog converter, coupled to the computer, that converts the
19 digital word into an analog signal selected from one of 2^N possible signal levels; and

20 means for converting the analog signal into a chaotically oscillating signal
21 that oscillates about a current-voltage equilibrium point defined by an intersection
22 of a resistive load line and a current-voltage function uniquely defined by the analog
23 signal.

24 148. A method of interfacing a chaotic transmitting circuit to a
25 communications channel without using a frequency filter, comprising the steps of:

26 (1) buffering an output of the chaotic transmitting circuit to isolate the chaotic
27 transmitting circuit from the communications channel;

28 (2) removing a direct current voltage component from the buffered output
29 obtained in step (1); and

30 (3) matching the amplitude and impedance of the signal obtained from step

1 (2) to the communications channel.

2 149. The method of claim 148, wherein step (2) comprises the step of using
3 a direct current power supply and an attenuator circuit.

4 150. The method of claim 148, wherein step (3) comprises the step of using
5 a balanced line driver to match the electrical characteristics of a twisted pair wire
6 communications channel.

7 151. The method of claim 148, wherein step (3) comprises the step of
8 matching the amplitude and impedance of the signal obtained from step (2) to a light
9 emitting diode.

10 152. Apparatus for interfacing a chaotic transmitting circuit to a
11 communications channel without using a frequency filter, comprising:

12 an isolation circuit that buffers an output of the chaotic transmitting circuit
13 from the communications channel;

14 a direct current power supply coupled to the isolation circuit through a
15 resistor, wherein the direct current power supply subtracts a direct current voltage
16 from the output of the isolation circuit; and

17 an attenuator circuit, coupled to the direct current power supply, wherein the
18 attenuator circuit attenuates a signal present at the direct current power supply prior
19 to being introduced into the communications channel.

20 153. The apparatus of claim 152, wherein the communications channel
21 comprises a cable system.

22 154. The apparatus of claim 152, further comprising a balanced line driver
23 that matches the electrical characteristics of the apparatus to a dual conductor cable.

24 155. The apparatus of claim 152, wherein the communications channel
25 comprises a radio frequency channel.

26 156. A method of interfacing a chaotic receiving circuit to a communications
27 channel without using a frequency filter, comprising the steps of:

28 (1) buffering a modulated chaotic signal received from the communications
29 channel to isolate the chaotic receiving circuit from the communications channel;

30 (2) amplifying the buffered signal; and

(3) adding a direct current component to the amplified buffered signal obtained in step (2), wherein the direct current component corresponds to a direct current component subtracted at a corresponding transmitter.

4 157. The method of claim 156, further comprising the step of, prior to step
5 (1), passing the modulated chaotic signal through a balanced input buffer/amplifier
6 that matches electrical characteristics of a dual conductor communications channel
7 to the chaotic receiving circuit.

8 158. Apparatus for interfacing a chaotic receiving circuit to a communications
9 channel without using a frequency filter, comprising:

10 a buffering circuit that buffers a modulated chaotic signal received from the
11 communications channel to isolate the chaotic receiving circuit from the
12 communications channel;

13 an amplifier coupled to the buffering circuit that amplifies an output of the
14 buffering circuit; and

15 a direct current voltage offset circuit coupled to the amplifier, wherein the
16 direct current voltage offset circuit adds a direct current component to the amplified
17 buffered signal, wherein the direct current component corresponds to a direct current
18 component subtracted at a corresponding transmitter.

19 159. The apparatus of claim 158, further comprising a differential input
20 amplifier, coupled to the buffering circuit, wherein the differential input amplifier
21 rejects common-mode input components and amplifies differential components.